Aim: The aim of this course is to equip therapists with core skills in family therapy assessment and intervention, drawing on the key theoretical and practical techniques established in this field over the past fifty years.

In this workshop Paul with ensure that participants walk away with a core set of skills in family therapy assessment and intervention, enabling them to get started working with families in their practice. These skills will be drawn from a variety of models, including systemic, structural, narrative and solution-focussed, integrated together to provide a map for on-going therapy. Specific skills will include systemic assessment using circular questions and relationship scanning, deviation amplifying, enactments and re-enactments and therapeutic letters. This course will be unique in that it will be primarily taught through demonstration, role play and practice. There will be no powerpoint presentations or didactic lectures, but rather engagement with real case material and dilemmas.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Develop a theoretical understanding of family therapy history and key models including systemic, structural, solution-focused, narrative and open dialogue
2. Apply these models to hypothesising, formulation and feedback regarding family presentations
3. Conduct systemic family assessments
4. Write therapeutic letters
5. Develop skills in deviation amplification
6. Manage difficult processes in the room when conducting family therapy

About: Paul Rhodes

Associate Professor Paul Rhodes is a leading Australian academic who has practiced, taught and researched family therapy for over 20 years. Author of Rhodes & Wallis (2014) A Practical Guide to Family Therapy and ex-Editor of Australian and New Zealand Journal of Family Therapy he has been at the forefront of the development of systemic practice and scholarship. Paul has specialised in a number of fields in terms of family therapy; adolescent family therapy, family-based treatment for anorexia, systemic approaches to developmental disability. In addition he has served as a consultant to a wide range of private and government organisations, developing and supporting family therapy teams internationally.